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E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/14/2018
TAGS: [PREL](#) [UNTZ](#) [UNMIK](#) [PGOV](#) [TZ](#)
SUBJECT: TANZANIA: KOSOVO INDEPENDENCE DEMARCHE

REF: A. STATE 15111

[1](#)B. STATE 13716

Classified By: T. Mushingi, Acting Deputy Chief of Mission for reasons 1.4 (b,d).

[1](#)1. (SBU) Foreign Service Officer Hemed Mngaza of the Europe and Americas Division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation told PolCouns that the demarche requesting the Government of Tanzania (GOT) to recognize Kosovo immediately after declaring its independence was forwarded on February 13 to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. PolCouns had delivered Ref B demarche on February 12 to Mngaza a few hours before President Kikwete named his new cabinet, stressing that recognizing Kosovo is of highest priority to the USG and particularly to the White House. Following President Kikwete's late afternoon February 12 announcement that Hon. Bernard Membe had retained his position as Foreign Minister, Ambassador Begum Taj, Director of the Multilateral Cooperation Division forwarded the U.S. request to recognize Kosovo independence to Minister Membe.

[1](#)2. (C) When PolCouns revisited the demarche with Mngaza on February 14, he noted that in light of the upcoming POTUS visit to Tanzania, the U.S. request to recognize Kosovo has now been forwarded by the Foreign Minister to President Kikwete, who arrived back in Dar es Salaam on February 14. Should a response come from the State House prior to POTUS' scheduled meetings with President Kikwete on February 17, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will contact the Embassy immediately.
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